



Ministry for Regulation Weekly Report – 5 February 2026

Week ending	5 February 2026	Priority	Medium
Security classification	In confidence	Tracking number	MFR2026-021

Recipient	Action sought
Hon David Seymour Minister for Regulation	Note the contents of this report

Contact for discussion if required

Name	Position	Phone number
Aisling Risdon	Head of Ministerial and Strategic Services	S 9(2)(a)

Comments



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Actions

Reference	Action	Due date	Status update
A2026-018	MfR to come back with options on next steps for the Product Labelling Review	February	In progress.

Contact: Aisling Risdon, Head of Ministerial and Strategic Services, S 9(2)(a)

Papers delivered and under development

Delivered to the Minister for Regulation

Reference	Title	Date delivered
MFR2026-023	Further candidate for possible shortlisting for the Regulatory Standards Board	04/02/2026

Delivered to the Minister's office

Reference	Title	Date delivered
MFR2026-017	Annual Review 2024-25: Responses to at- and post-hearing questions	05/02/2026

Under development

Reference	Title	Due date
s 9(2)(f)(iv)		
MFR2026-022	Guidance on regulatory sandboxes	11/02/2026
MFR2026-005	Regulatory Standards Act: Exempting Government amendment papers from CAS requirements	12/02/2026
MFR2026-015	Vote Regulation: March Baseline Update	12/02/2026
MFR2026-020	Ministerial Policy Satisfaction Survey 1 October 2025 - 31 December 2025	20/02/2026

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Announcements & Engagements

Ministerial activity

Date	Location	Details	Opportunity
Cabinet (TBC)	Wellington	Announcement of Telecommunication Regulatory Review outcomes	Joint announcement with Minister Goldsmith. MfR web copy and publication of reports
s 9(2)(f)(iv)			
24 February	Auckland	NZ Building Industry Federation and GS1 New Zealand BA5 event	Speech: Digital labelling - implications for building and construction.
26 February	Wellington	All of Local Government Conference	Support office with speaking points.

Ministry for Regulation activity

Date	Details
Throughout Feb	Hospitality sector engagement continues
14 February	The Post –publishing two years of MFR operation interview with Chief Executive
24 March	Chief Economist presentation - Environment and Resource Management Law Update Conference
March	Extensive programme of university engagement including career expos, guest lectures and panel events

Contact: Joe Stockman, Head of Communications and Engagement, s 9(2)(a)

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Updates

Regulatory Standards Act

For information

We wrote to all public service and Crown entity chief executives this week about the Regulatory Standards Act. The letters reminded the chief executives of their agency obligations and advised that your statutory guidance, along with our administrative guidance and templates, would be coming soon. We also contacted Local Government New Zealand and Taituarā with similar messages for local government.

Contact: Andrew Royle, Deputy Chief Executive, Policy, S 9(2)(a)

Establishment of the Board

For information

We have sent you a further briefing regarding two late candidates. We are seeking your decision on short-listing one of these candidates for the Board chair role.

Due diligence checks on the already shortlisted candidates are underway, and interviews are being booked. Almost all interviews have been scheduled for 16 and 18 February.


After the interview process is complete, a draft Cabinet paper will be provided to your office with the list of candidates the interview panel identified as appointable, and our recommendations on the final composition of the Board. Your office will then consult with your ministerial colleagues, before the paper is lodged with APH.

Contact: Anshuman Chakraborty, Head of Legal & Board Establishment, S 9(2)(a)

Hospitality Review

For information

s 9(2)(f)(iv)



Contact: Hannah McGlue, Manager Regulatory Reviews, S 9(2)(a)

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Telecommunications Review

For information

You have asked for the Cabinet Paper to have split recommendations instead of recommending to not progress four of the Report recommendations. We understand that your office is discussing this with Minister Goldsmith's Office. As Ministerial consultation has yet to occur, it is now likely that the Cabinet paper will be considered by Cabinet in early March.

Contact: Cherie Engelbrecht, Acting Manager Regulatory Reviews, S 9(2)(a)

Product Labelling Review

For information

The Review team met with you on 3 February 2026 to discuss your feedback on the report. We will work with your office on a way forward that addresses your feedback.

We are continuing to engage with the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) and other key agencies on the digital labelling trial under the Food Act 2014. Consultation on the trial closed on 19 December 2025 and MPI is preparing a briefing including summary of engagement for Ministers. We have provided feedback on the briefing and will continue to engage with MPI throughout the trial.

Contact: Justine Fitzmaurice, Manager Regulatory Reviews, S 9(2)(a)

s 9(2)(f)(iv)

Red Tape Tipline

For information

As of 3 February 2026, the Ministry has received a total of 1,520 submissions on potential red tape issues. We currently have 43 low-complexity reviews underway (relating to 202 public submissions). You will receive the next deregulatory bundle on 26 February 2026.

Some of the issues we are currently reviewing include:

s 9(2)(f)(iv)

Contact: Hannah McGlue, Manager Regulatory Reviews, S 9(2)(a)